



SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 17, 2014, 1 P.M.



U.S. Marine Corps' Battle Color Detachment scheduled to return to MCLB Albany, March 17

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, Ga. -- The Marines of 8th & I are back!

Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany officials are gearing up to host the Marine Corps Battle Color ceremony here, March 17 at 1 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public.

Every year, the Battle Color Detachment travels to every clime and place, performing for hundreds of thousands of spectators. These valiant Marines represent the best of America, and they personify the proud spirit of the Marine Corps and the nation!

Comprised of three performing ceremonial units from Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., the Marine Corps Color Guard, the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon and the Marine Corps Drum & Bugle Corps make up the BCD. The crescendo of the event is the Silent Drill Platoon, whose precision moves without verbal commands captivate audiences.

The Marine Corps Color Guard: The United States Marine Corps Color Guard is unique. It is comprised of four Marines: the Color Sergeant, the Marine Corps Color Bearer, and the Left and Right Riflemen. The Color Guard includes the National Colors, carried by the Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps and is the only official Battle Colors of the United States Marines.

The Battle Colors bear the same 50 streamers authorized for the Marine Corps as a whole. These streamers represent U.S. and foreign unit awards as well as those periods of service, expeditions and campaigns in which the Marine Corps has participated from the American Revolution to today. The Color Guard section has three teams and often participates in more than 1,000 ceremonies annually, regularly two to eight per day.

The U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon: A 24-man rifle platoon performs a unique precision drill exhibition. This highly disciplined platoon exemplifies the professionalism associated with the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Silent Drill Platoon first performed in the Sunset Parades of 1948 and received such an overwhelming response that it soon became a regular part of the parades at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps: Traditionally known as "The Commandant's Own," it is comprised of 85 Marines recruited from various civilian drum corps, marching bands and other musical units within the Marine Corps. The unit combines contemporary songs and traditional marching music with uniquely choreographed drill movements in a program entitled "Music in Motion."

Sequestration cancelled last year's annual visit from the U.S. Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment, but MCLB Albany officials look forward to its return this year.